



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

101 South Main • Suite 102 • Temple, TX 76502

Phone: (254) 742-9700 • Fax: (254) 742-9709 • TDD: (254) 742-9712 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx>

Date: July 18, 2006
Release Number TX 270.06

Contact Name: Connie Petru
Telephone Number: 254-742-9793
Email: Connie.Petru@tx.usda.gov

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES \$6.2 MILLION AVAILABLE FOR RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TEMPLE, TEXAS, July 18, 2006 - USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel, announced today the availability of more than \$6.2 million in Rural Community Development Initiative Program (RCDI) grant funds. The RCDI Program provides technical assistance and training funds to qualified intermediary organizations to develop their capacity to undertake housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

“USDA Rural Development in Texas is dedicated to ensuring that local community leaders have the resources they need to assist their community in creating new economic opportunities and improving their quality of life,” said Daniel. “The Rural Community Development Initiative Program is one of the instruments we can utilize to provide them with this service.”

The \$6,286,500 in RCDI grant funds are available to intermediaries and have a dollar for dollar matching fund requirement, intended to double the impact of the grants. Qualified organizations can be public or private that have been legally organized for at least three years and have experience working with eligible recipients. Recipients of the funds from the intermediary can be non-profit organizations, low-income communities, or federally recognized tribes.

Complete information about the program is available in the July 12th, 2006 edition of the Federal Register or by going to: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/>. Information is also available by contacting Connie Petru, USDA Rural Development State Office, at 254-742-9793. Applications must be received by USDA Rural Development within 90 days of the Federal Register publication date. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

USDA Rural Development has invested over \$63 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Over 1.1 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

#

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).